

**TOWN OF GRIFTON  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
WORKSHOP MEETING  
May 1, 2012**

**Present:** Mayor Billy Ray Jackson; Commissioners Buddy Albritton, Sammy Whitehurst, Richard Hill William Barnes, Jr., Mary Grace Bright; Manager Joe Albright

**Absent:** None

Mayor Jackson called the meeting to order.

Mayor Jackson led the Board of Commissioners in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

**Recognition of Persons to be Heard:** None

**Discussion Items:**

1. *Collection Services Proposal*

Manager Albright introduced Joe Durant from TekCollect Services. Mr. Durant stated that their company is a collection company for doubtful accounts. He also stated that municipalities are using their services because they guarantee results. The company would charge a set price of \$7500.00 to collect 250 accounts. He gave a brief overview of the process that is used in collecting these accounts. He stated that if the Board had any further questions he would be happy to return at a later meeting to answer any additional questions.

Manager Albright recommended this item be put on the consent agenda at the next regular meeting. The Board agreed.

2. *General Obligation Bond Referendum – Streets*

Manager Albright informed the Board that there is still time to act but a decision needs to be made on which option to put on the ballot.

Commissioner Whitehurst asked to go through the options again.

Mayor Jackson stated that he would choose option 2b because it gives all the streets attention. Commissioner Whitehurst wanted to know what we will have in place if the 1 inch option does not hold up. He feels there should be a plan in place to maintain the work on the streets.

Manager Albright stated that a study needs to be done at least every 5 years and at that time the budget would need to be looked at and money set aside for future maintenance.

Commissioner Whitehurst feels it is important to have a schedule in place before spending this kind of money.

Manager Albright stated that it is simple to put forth a document. However, it will ultimately be up to future Boards to agree with spending the money.

Mayor Jackson stated that he believes in preventive maintenance and having a contingency to fix the roads when problems occur.

Commissioner Bright stated that she felt we need a long range plan before asking voters to spend the money.

Commissioner Bright stated that we have looked at the tax rate but have not looked at any other way to fund this project. She asked if we really needed to put \$100,000 a year in fund balance. She feels there are issues that have not been addressed and should be.

Mayor Jackson stated that we definitely need money in fund balance and we also need a contingency for the streets.

Commissioner Bright stated that we should be creative in coming up with dollars for this project. Commissioner Hill feels that there should be more discussion and thinking on this issue.

Commissioner Bright asked about having more public hearings to educate the citizens and get public input.

Mayor Jackson stated that very few people showed up at the last meetings.

Commissioner Barnes suggested putting information in with the water bills. He also suggested a survey.

Commissioner Hill said he felt all people will be upset for any increase anywhere.

Commissioner Bright asked Manager Albright to come up with different ways other than increasing taxes.

3. *Fiscal year 2011-2012 Budget Amendments*

Manager Albright presented the budget amendments. He stated that Angel Hudson had prepared these amendments and he has reviewed them agrees that these amendments are necessary. Manager Albright recommended this item be put on the consent agenda at the next regular Board meeting. The Board agreed

4. *Fiscal Year 2012-2013 Budget Public Hearing – Set Date*

Manager Albright suggested setting the Budget Public Hearing for June 5, 2012 at 7:00p.m. He recommended this item be put on the consent agenda at the next regular meeting. The Board agreed.

#### **Commissioner Comments**

Mayor Jackson asked for Commissioner Comments.

Manager Albright let the Board know that D.O.T. is planning to get started on fixing the intersection of Queen St. and Highland Blvd, possibly, as soon as Monday.

Manager Albright also let the Board know that he has made additional contact with the Depot roofer and they should be finishing up soon.

Commissioner Whitehurst made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Commissioner Bright. Motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted

Angel Hudson

Town of Grifton